

ABSTRACT

A method of operating in a network in which a plurality of stations communicate over a shared medium. The method comprises transmitting a group of bits from a transmitting station to a receiving station, wherein the group of bits comprises information bits and error checking bits, and communicating additional bits from the transmitting station to the receiving station without transmitting the additional bits. Communicating the additional bits comprises, at the transmitting station, deriving the error checking bits from the additional bits using an error checking process; and at the receiving station, using the same or a related error checking process to process candidate bits known to the receiving station, and comparing the output of the error checking process to the error checking bits received from the transmitting station to determine if the candidate bits correspond to the additional bits.

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